

what was striking to me is, during the voir dire process, they asked each and every juror whether they thought they could sit fairly on the case before them.

This particular case involved two victims, two people who were murdered, one who was a 16-year-old girl. And it was striking to me, both how many prospective jurors had a family member or close friend who'd been the victim of violence, who had been murdered or raped, how many also who could so relate to the circumstances that they felt they couldn't be fair and impartial. But it was extraordinary. There wasn't a single person really in the jury box that hadn't been touched in some way by violent crime.

And I want to thank the gentlewoman from Maryland for her leadership on this issue and getting us all to take some time to reflect on how violence has touched all of our communities, all of our lives and how we can rededicate ourselves to trying to attack this incredible waste of life. So I thank you.

I urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOLDEN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 757.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### EXEMPTING FROM CERTAIN PROHIBITIONS SHIPMENTS OF EXPLOSIVES TO INDIAN TRIBES

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1333) to amend chapter 40 of title 18, United States Code, to exempt the transportation, shipment, receipt, or importation of explosive materials for delivery to a federally recognized Indian tribe or an agency of such a tribe from various Federal criminal prohibitions relating to explosives, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1333

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. EXEMPTION OF THE TRANSPORTATION, SHIPMENT, RECEIPT, OR IMPORTATION OF EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS FOR DELIVERY TO A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED INDIAN TRIBE OR AN AGENCY OF SUCH A TRIBE FROM VARIOUS FEDERAL CRIMINAL PROHIBITIONS RELATING TO EXPLOSIVES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 845(a)(3) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “to any agency of the United States or to any State or any political subdivision thereof” and inserting “to any agency of the United States, to any State or any political subdivision thereof, or to any federally recognized Indian tribe or agency thereof”.

(b) INDIAN TRIBE DEFINED.—Section 841 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(t) ‘Indian tribe’ has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 479a).”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. SCHIFF. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 1333 addresses the gap in the law governing the transportation of explosive materials by giving federally recognized Indian tribes the same status already given Federal, State and local governments. In 2002, Congress passed the Safe Explosives Act, which prohibits the transportation, shipment, receipt and importation of explosive materials without specific Federal permits or licenses.

The act exempts Federal, State and local governments from this requirement, but due to an oversight, the exemption does not cover federally recognized Indian tribes and their agencies. This bill corrects that oversight. Fireworks can play an integral role in the religious and cultural ceremonies of many Indian tribes. This bill will facilitate those religious and cultural practices without compromising safety. This act does not exempt Indian tribes from complying with safe storage requirements. Like State agencies, tribes still will be required to comply with Federal explosives storage regulations.

H.R. 1333 enjoys bipartisan support. I thank the gentleman from Arizona, Mr. RAÚL GRIJALVA, for bringing this oversight to the attention of the House and for his hard work on this bill.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1333 makes a simple technical correction to Federal law regulating the transportation and shipment of explosives to provide federally recognized Indian tribes the same exemption as Federal, State and local governments. Under current law the Federal, State, and local governments are exempt from permitting requirements for the purchase or shipment of explosive materials, including commercial fireworks.

Indian tribes, however, are not afforded the same exemption under our law. Fireworks have been a part of the practices of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and the Colorado River Indian Tribes of Arizona for many years. Some of these practices involve cultural and religious beliefs that are very important to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, for example.

However, these practices in recent years have been inhibited by the requirements of the Safe Explosive Act of 2002, called the SEA Act. The Safe Explosives Act significantly expanded the Federal explosive laws to include requirements that a license or permit be obtained in order to receive explosives. The SEA Act established background checks and expanded the categories of persons prohibited from possessing explosives. H.R. 1333 ensures that Indian tribes across the country will be able to carry on their same cultural and religious practices that they enjoyed with fireworks celebrations prior to the enactment of the permitting requirements.

It's important to protect the rituals of Native Americans and afford Indians tribes the same treatment under the law as Federal, State, and local governments currently enjoy.

So I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers and will reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POE of Texas. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Arizona, Mr. GRIJALVA, for his leadership on this issue and urge passage of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1333, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### HONORING DR. NORMAN E. BORLAUG

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 739) honoring the life and achievements of Dr. Norman E. Borlaug for his many contributions to alleviating world hunger.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 739

Whereas the United States honors Norman E. Borlaug as an Iowan, humanitarian, and father of the “Green Revolution”;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug was born on March 25, 1914, and grew up on a family farm outside Cresco, Iowa;